Pending cases under Consumer Protection Act

3606. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:

SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) what is the State-wise number of cases pending for disposal under the Consumer Protection Act; and

(b) what is the minimum time likely to be taken to dispose of these cases together with the additional steps being contemplated to dispose of these cases at an early date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) (a) As per information received from some of the States/U.T.s a statement has been compiled and is enclosed. (*See* below).

(b) The Consumer Protection Rules framed under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 provide for deciding a case within 90 days where the complaint does not require any tests/analysis of the product and within 150 days where is requires testing/analysis. Recently the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 has been amended to provide for setting up of additional District Forums in a district, depending upon the work load. However, the responsibility of setting up of additional District Forums lies with the State Government.

Statement

Name of the State	No. of cases pending in State Commissions & District Forums
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	15039
Assam	1727
Haryana	4125
Himachal Pradesh	1347
Karnataka	11902
Kerala	1189
Madhya Pradesh	1424
Maharashtra	13296
Manipur	18
Mizoram	1
Nagaland	N.L.
Orissa	67
Punjab	7967

1	2
Rajasthan	2457
Sikkim	7
Tamil Nadu	8001 (Approx
Uttar Pradesh	35781
A&N Islands	15
Chandigarh	3210
D&N Haveli	12
Daman & Diu	NIL
Delhi	
Lakshadweep	
Pondicherry	118

Effectiveness of Consumer Protection Act in Maharashtra

3607. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the enforcement of the Consumer Protection Act has not been effective in Maharashtra ;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor ;

(c) what steps are being taken to see that the Act is effectively enforced; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the State Government lacks in its initiative to implement this Act ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d) As per information available with the Central Government, the State Commission and 31 District Forums are functioning in the State of Maharashtra. A total number of 33,553 cases were filed in the District Fora as on 31-12-1993 out of which 21,412 have been disposed of. Similarly, out of 1785 complaints and 2309 appeals filed in the State Commission, 925 complaints and 867 appeals were disposed of upto 31-12-1993. As such, the Act appears to be effectively implemented in the State of Maharashtra.

Issue of Ration Cards to rich and wealthy persons

3608. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are contemplating not to issue or withdraw, if issued, ration cards to rich and wealthy persons ;

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme ;